

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-14 and 26-35 are pending.

Claims 1-14 and 26-35 are rejected.

II. Objection to the Claims

Claims 4, 7, 14, 28, 29, 33, and 34 are objected to because of informalities. Applicants amend claims 4, 7, and 14. Applicants traverse the objection to claims 28, 29, 33 and 34 because the term set is correct because the depth claimed correlates to the diameter, grouped by sets, and not the pattern. Applicants respectfully request the removal of the objection to claims 4, 7, 14, 28, 29, 33, and 34 in light of the above amendments and arguments.

III. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-14 and 26-35 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 8, 11, 13, and 26 recite the limitation "the outer surface", which lacks sufficient antecedent basis.

Applicant amends claims 1 and 26 to correct the antecedent basis. Claims 8, 11, and 13 are amended through their dependence upon amended independent claim 1.

Claim 30 recites the limitation "said thread windings layer" and "the outer surface", which lacks antecedent basis. Claim 30 is amended to correct the antecedent basis.

Claims 31 and 35 recites the limitation "the outer surface", which lacks antecedent basis. Claim 31 is amended and claim 35 is canceled.

Claim 32 recites the limitation "the thread", which lacks antecedent basis. Claim 32 depends upon amended claim 30 and thus the rejection is moot.

Claims 2-7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 27-29, 33 and 34 depend upon rejected claims 1, 26 and 30 respectfully thus rendering the claims indefinite. Applicant amends claims 1, 26 and 30 to correct the antecedent basis.

Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claims 1-14 and 26-35 in light of the amendments described above.

IV Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1,2, 4, 5, and 7 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-22 of US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 to Kuttappa et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,725,442 to Higuchi et al. Applicants respond with a terminal disclaimer to US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 and appropriate fee. In light of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and fee the Applicants respectfully requests removal of the double patenting rejection and allowance of claims 1,2, 4, 5, and 7.

Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-22 of US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 to Kuttappa et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,807,192 to Yamagishi et al. Applicants respond with a terminal disclaimer to US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 and appropriate fee. In light of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and fee the Applicants respectfully requests removal of the double patenting rejection and allowance of claims 1 and 3-5.

Claims 1 and 4-6 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-22 of US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 to Kuttappa et

al. in view of GB 2 264 302 A to Pocklington. Applicants respond with a terminal disclaimer to US Patent No. 6,428,428 B1 and appropriate fee. In light of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and fee the Applicants respectfully requests removal of the double patenting rejection and allowance of claims 1 and 4-6.

Claims 1, 7-14 and 30-35 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-39 of US Patent No. 6,719,646 B2 to Kuttappa et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,807,192 to Yamagishi et al. Applicants respond with a terminal disclaimer to US Patent No. 6,719,646 B2 and appropriate fee. In light of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and fee the Applicants respectfully requests removal of the double patenting rejection and allowance of claims 1, 7-14 and 30-35.

Claims 26-29 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-39 of US Patent No. 6,719,646 B2 to Kuttappa et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,807,192 to Yamagishi et al and GB 2 264 302 A to Pocklington. Applicants respond with a terminal disclaimer to US Patent No. 6,719,646 B2 and appropriate fee. In light of the enclosed terminal

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disclaimer and fee the Applicants respectfully requests
removal of the double patenting rejection and allowance of
claims 1, 7-14 and 30-35.

V Conclusion

The Applicants resubmit the previously filed amendments. Based on the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that all claims be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Terminal Disclaimer 6,719,646
Terminal Disclaimer 6,428,428

Certificate of Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper along with any paper or document referred to therein as being attached or enclosed, is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 872-9306 to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450- This 9th day of SEPTEMBER 2004.



Jeffrey D. Washville